

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 SSC-01 /074 W

-----071124Z 102184 /17

O 071126Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8531

INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL LYON

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE

AMCONSUL NICE

AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 00534

E.O. 11652: XGDS4

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, FR

SUBJECT: SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) "ORAL AIDE-MEMOIRE"

ROCARD-COT VISIT

1. STATING THAT HE WAS ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PS FIRST SECRETARY FRANCOIS MITTERRAND, MICHEL THAUVIN, DEPUTY HEAD OF THE PARTY'S INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SECRETARIAT, DELIVERED TO EMBOFF WHAT HE CALLED A "VERBAL AIDE-MEMOIRE". THE NOTES FROM WHICH THAUVIN SPOKE DO NOT MAKE IT CLEAR WHETHER THE ENTIRE TEXT OF WHAT FOLLOWS FORMS PART OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES DECISION.

2. BEGIN TEXT. DECISION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF 1/5/77: "ON THE PROPOSITION OF FRANCOIS MITTERRAND, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY HAS DECIDED THAT UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ROBERT PONTILLON, MICHEL ROCARD AND JEAN-PIERRE COT ARE AUTHORIZED TO PRO-
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FIT FROM THEIR FORTHCOMING TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES TO HAVE EXPLORATORY CONTACTS WITH THE NEW AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION. THESE CONTACTS WILL NOT ENGAGE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PS AND WILL NOT CALL FOR ANY PUBLICITY IN THE PRESS. AT A SLIGHTLY LATER TIME ROBERT PONTILLON WILL VISIT THE UNITED STATES, THIS TIME ON AN OFFICIAL MISSION TO MAKE CONCRETE THE CONTACTS WITH (AMERICAN) POLICY

MAKERS AS WELL AS THOSE RELATIONSHIPS WHICH THE PS
JUDGES NECESSARY." END OF WRITTEN TEXT.

3. CONTINUING ON IN THE SAME TONE, THAUVIN WENT ON TO
SAY THAT PONTILLON'S TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE
FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADVANCING A VISIT BY MITTERRAND HIM-
SELF. THE PS ASSUMES THAT MITTERRAND'S TRIP TO THE
STATES WILL TAKE PLACE NOT EARLIER THAN THE END OF MAY
AND NOT LATER THAN THE END OF JULY WITH SOME PREFERENCE
GIVEN TO THE EARLIER DATES.

4. COMMENT: THE PS WHICH HAS BEEN ACTING SOMEWHAT EM-
BARASSED ABOUT THE SPEED WITH WHICH ROCARD AND COT
MOUNTED THEIR APPOINTMENT WITH SECRETARY-DESIGNATE VANCE,
IS THUS LABELING THE COT/ROCARD MISSION AS UNOFFICIAL BUT
IS ALSO INSCRIBING IT INTO THE REGULAR MECHANISM OF PARTY
CONTACTS WITH THE USG. THE FACT THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMM-
ITTEE CHOOSES TO COMMIT ITSELF TO A PONTILLON TRIP WITH
NO PRIOR DISCUSSION WITH THE EMBASSY SUGGESTS, AT LEAST
IN SOME MEASURE, THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE PARTY INTERNAT-
IONAL AFFAIRS HIERARCHY WAS TAKEN ABACK BY THE
INITIATIVE TAKEN BY THE TWO PS LEADERS. ROCARD, WHO HAS
BEEN FEUDING WITH MITTERRAND, TRIED TO GET OUT IN FRONT
OF HIS BOSS -- THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECISION SQUARELY
REMINDS HIM OF HIS OBLIGATION TO THE REGULAR PARTY MACH-
INERY. IT ALSO SERVES WARNING TO THE PARTY'S CONTACT IN
WASHINGTON, GOF EMBASSY PRESSATT RENAUD VIGNAL, THAT HE
MAY HAVE ACTED IMPROPERLY IN SETTING UP THE APPOINTMENT
WITHOUT FIRST CLEARING IT WITH PS HEADQUARTERS.
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5. SEPTTEL GIVING COT AND ROCARD BIOGRAPHIES FOLLOWS.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, FR, US, PS, (THAUVIN, MICHEL)
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